

Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 CPR-02 OMB-01 IO-14 AID-20 DRC-01 /136 W

----- 091198

R 170945Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0907

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 5089

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BT, CH, NP

SUBJ: ATTENDANCE AT BHUTAN CORONATION CEREMONIES

1. BHUTAN HAS INVITED PRC TO SEND A DELEGATION TO THE CORONATION OF THE KING OF BHUTAN ON JUNE 2, 1974. CHINESE INVITATION IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH BHUTANESE DECISION TO INVITE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL PERMANENT MEMBERS OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL AS OF ITS IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORS, COLOMBO PLAN MEMBERS AND PRINCIPAL AID DONORS.

2. BOTH INDIAN AND BHUTANESE OFFICIALS HAVE FOR SOME MONTHS BEEN EXTREMELY RETICENT TO COMMENT ON WHETHER INVITATION SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO CHINESE. SEVERAL INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE HINTED TO EMBOFFS THEY SAW NO PARTICULAR REASON FOR BHUTAN'S EXTENDING INVITATION, BUT IT WAS UP TO BHUTANESE. BHUTANESE FONMIN DECLINED TO COMMENT ON THE SUBJECT AT ALL TO EMBOFF THREE WEEKS AGO IN INFORMAL CONVERSATION. GOI HAS NOT COMMENTED ON INVITATION (WHICH SURFACED IN DELHI PRESS AND CONFIRMED BY BHUTANESE MISSION LAST WEEKEND).

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PRESUMABLY OFFICIAL REACTION WILL CONTINUE TO BE THAT THIS

WAS BHUTAN'S DECISION.

3. NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE AS TO LEVEL AT WHICH
CHINESE WILL BE REPRESENTED--IF IN FACT THEY ELECT TO
ATTEND.

4. WE UNDERSTAND, INCIDENTALLY, FROM NEPALESE EMBASSY IN
NEW DELHI THAT KING BIRENDRA WILL NOT ATTEND THE CORONATION
SINCE BHUTAN AND NEPAL DO NOT HAVE FORMAL DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS. INSTEAD ONE OF ROYAL PRINCES WILL DO THE
HONORS.
MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

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